

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for managing ~~three~~ groups responsible for pit activities ~~to complete a common task~~, the method comprising the steps of:

populating database fields of a web application by an supervisory engineering group with data that specifies details of pits required to successfully execute a plurality of related commands, wherein the population is conducted manually and automatically from both legacy Computer Automated Design systems and legacy visual basic systems;

providing ~~a first~~ the technician manager group with limited access to the web application a first time,

receiving from the technician manager via the web application during the first time ~~to place~~ a first command into the web application that instructs the pit contractor group to open a pit, wherein the ~~first~~ technician management group has read access to all data fields in the database related to the first command;

as a result of executing the first command from the technician manager, providing ~~a second~~ the pit contractor group with limited access to the web application a first time,

~~to receive~~ issuing the first command from the ~~first~~ technician manager group to the pit contractor group via the web application and providing the ~~second~~ pit contractor group with read access to all of the data fields required to successfully execute the first command to open the pit during the first time;

providing the ~~second~~ pit contractor group with limited access to the web application a second time, ~~to respond~~

receiving a response into the web application from the pit contractor that the first command has been completed by opening the pit into the web application, wherein the response includes additional data related to the completion of the first command wherein the additional data comprises the location of the pit and details regarding how the pit was opened;

providing the ~~first~~ technician manager group with limited access to the web application a second time,

~~to place~~ receiving from the technician manager during the second time a second command that instructs the technician group to perform a cable task within the pits of the first command into the web application wherein the ~~first~~ technician manager group has

read access to all data fields in the database related to the second command;

providing a ~~third~~ the technician group with limited access to the web application a first time,

~~to receive~~ receiving by the technician group via the web application during the first time the second command from the ~~first~~ technician manager group and providing the ~~third~~ technician group with read only access to the data fields required to successfully execute the second command by performing the cable task within the pit once it is opened by the pit contractor;

providing the ~~third~~ technician group with limited access to the web application a second time,

~~to respond~~ receiving a response from the technician group via the web application during the second time that the second command has been completed by completing the cable task within the open pit into the web application, wherein the response includes additional data related to the completion of the second command that comprises the number of hours required to complete the cable task within the pit and wherein the write access to respond is via the ~~first~~ technician manager group;

providing the ~~first~~ technician manager group with limited access to the web application a third time,

~~to place~~ receiving from the technician group via the web application during the third time a third command to close the pit where the cable task has been completed into the web application wherein the ~~first~~ technician manager group has read access to all data fields in the database related to the third command;

providing the ~~second~~ pit contractor group with limited access to the web application a third time,

~~to receive~~ receiving by the pit contractor group via the web application during the third time the third command from the ~~first~~ technician manger group and providing the ~~second~~ pit contractor group with read access to all of the data fields required to successfully execute the third command by closing the pit where the cable task has been completed; and

providing the ~~second~~ pit contractor group with limited access to the web application a fourth time,

~~to respond~~ receiving from the pit contractor group via the web application during the fourth time that the third command has been completed ~~into the web application~~, wherein the response includes additional data related to the completion of the third command including where the pit was closed and details regarding how the pit was closed; wherein further the responses of the ~~second~~ pit contractor and ~~third~~ technician groups also includes high priority e-mail.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the web application may be accessed through a global internet and a local intranet.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the steps must occur in chronological order.

5-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A method for managing ~~three~~ groups responsible for pit activities ~~to complete a common task~~, the method comprising:

~~a first step of~~ populating the fields of a database by an supervisory engineering group with data that specifies details of a pit required to successfully execute a plurality of related commands, wherein the population is conducted manually and automatically from both legacy Computer Automated Design systems and legacy visual basic systems;

~~a second step of~~ providing a first the technician manager group with limited write access to the web application a first time,

~~to place a~~ a step of receiving first information from the technician manager group during the first time into the web application regarding opening the pit by the pit contractor group;

a third step of providing ~~a second~~ the pit contractor group with access to the web application during a first time,

~~to receive~~ a step of receiving by the pit contractor during the first time the first

information from the ~~first~~ the technician manager group via the web application;

a fourth step of providing the ~~second~~ pit contractor group with limited write access to the web application a second time,

~~to place~~ a step of receiving a second information from the pit contractor during the second time into the web application regarding where and how the pit was opened by the pit contractor;

a fifth step of providing the ~~first~~ technician manager group with access to the web application a second time,

~~to receive~~ a step of receiving by the technician manager group during the second time the second information and providing limited write access to the technician manager group;

~~place~~ receiving a third information from the technician manager group during the second time into the web application regarding performing a cable related task within the pit;

a sixth step of providing ~~a third~~ the technician group with access to the web application a first time,

~~to receive~~ receiving by the technician group during the first time via the web application the third information from the ~~first~~ technician manager group;

a seventh step of providing the ~~third~~ technician group with access to the web application via the ~~first~~ technician manager group during a second time,

~~to place~~ receiving a fourth information from the technician group via during the second time into the web application regarding completion of the cable related task within the pit;

a eighth step of providing the ~~first~~ the technician manager group with access to the web application a third time,

~~to receive~~ receiving by the technician manager via the we application during the third time the fourth information and providing limited write access to place a fifth information into the web application regarding closing the pit by the pit contractor;

~~an~~ a ninth step of providing the ~~second~~ pit contractor group with access to the web application a third time,

~~to receive~~ receiving by the pit contractor group via the web application during the

third time the fifth information from the ~~first~~ the technician manager group; and

a tenth step of providing the ~~second~~ pit contractor group with limited write access to the web application a fourth time,

~~to place~~ receiving from the pit contractor during the fourth time a sixth information into the web application regarding where and how the pit was closed by the pit contractor, wherein the second step follows the first step, the third step follows the second step, the fourth step follows the third step, the fifth step follows the fourth step, the sixth step follows the fifth step, the seventh step follows the sixth step, the eighth step follows the seventh step, the ninth step follows the eighth step and the tenth step follows the ninth step.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the web application must be accessed ~~by the first group, second group, and third group~~ through a global internet.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the web application must be accessed ~~by the first group, second group, and third group~~ also through a security firewall between the global internet and the web application.

11-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the first, third, and fifth information are commands.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the second information responds to the first information, the fourth information responds to the third information, and the sixth information responds to the fifth information.

16-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) A method for managing a plurality of groups responsible for pit activities ~~to complete a common task~~, the method comprising the steps of:

creating a central body of information by an supervisory engineering group with data that specifies details of a pit required to successfully execute a plurality of related commands, wherein the population is conducted manually and automatically from both legacy Computer Automated Design systems and legacy visual basic systems;

providing a ~~first~~ a technician manager group of the plurality of groups with limited write access to a central body of information;

~~to place~~ receiving information into the central body of information in real time regarding opening a pit and performing a cable task within the pit once the pit is opened;

providing a ~~second~~ a pit contractor group of the plurality of groups with unlimited read access to the central body of information a first time;

~~to receive~~ receiving by the pit contractor during the first time information from the ~~first~~ technician manager group in real time from the central body of information to be instructed regarding opening the pit;

providing the ~~second~~ pit contractor group of the plurality of groups with limited write access to the central body of information during a second time;

~~to place~~ receiving information from the pit contractor during the second time into the central body of information in real time regarding completion of opening of the pit;

providing a ~~third~~ a technician group of the plurality of groups with unlimited read access to the central body of information during a first time;

~~to receive~~ receiving by the technician group during the first time information from the ~~first~~ technician manager group in real time from the central body of information regarding performing the cable task within the pit;

providing the ~~third~~ technician group with limited and indirect access through the ~~first~~ technician manager group to the central body of information during a second time;

~~to place~~ receiving information from the technician group during the second time into the central body of information in real time regarding completion of the cable task;

providing a fourth group of the plurality of groups with limited write access to the central body of information a first time;

~~to place~~ receiving information into the central body of information in real time from the fourth group during the first time;

providing the ~~second~~ pit contractor group of the plurality of groups with unlimited

read access to the central body of information during a third time;

~~to receive~~ receiving by the pit contractor group during the third time via the central body of information that information from the fourth group of the plurality of groups in real time; and

providing the ~~second~~ pit contractor group of the plurality of groups with limited write access to the central body of information a fourth time;

~~to place~~ receiving information from the pit contractor group during the fourth time into the central body of information in real time, where the body of information received during the fourth time comprises at least, the time a pit was opened, the time the pit was closed, the location of the pit, reports that the pit is unsafe, reports about disputes arising from the pit's existence, the time period from a request to open a pit to its opening and the time from a request to close a pit to its closing.

25. (Currently Amended) A method for managing a plurality of internal and external groups responsible for pit activities ~~to complete a common task~~, the method comprising the steps of:

providing the plurality of internal groups comprising a technician manager group with a first access to a central body of information a first time;

~~to place~~ receiving from the technician manager group during the first time a first information regarding opening of a pit into the central body of information, wherein the first access comprises unlimited read access and limited write access;

providing the plurality of external groups comprising a pit contractor with a second access to the central body of information;

~~to receive~~ receiving by the pit contractor the first information from the central body of information;

~~and to place~~ receiving from the pit contractor a second information regarding completion of opening of the pit into the central body of information, wherein the second access comprises unlimited read access and limited write access; and

providing the plurality of internal groups comprising the technician manager group with the first access to the central body of information a second time;

~~to receive~~ receiving by the technician manager group the second information

from the central body of information during the second time.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the first access is provided through an intranet.

27. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the second access is provided through a global internet.

28. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the first information is a command directed to one or more of the plurality of external groups.

29. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the second information responds to the first information.

30. (Original) The method of 29, wherein the central body of information is a computer network application designed to be accessed through a global internet.